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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

JANUARY 1984

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Commissioner Malloy Retires

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR COMMISSIONER WILLIAM R. MALLOY HAS ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO RETIRE FROM STATE SERVICE AT THE END OF FEBRUARY AFTER 29 YEARS OF WORKING IN THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY FIELD.

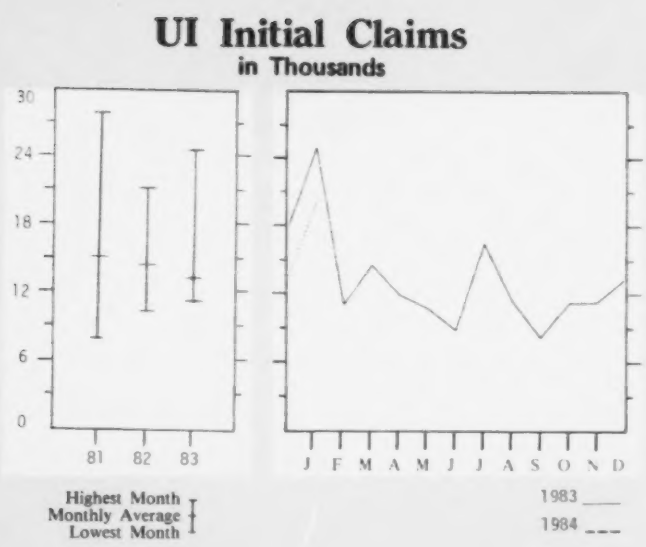
FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE, COMMISSIONER MALLOY BEGAN HIS CAREER AS AN ENTRY LEVEL INTERVIEWER IN A LOCAL OFFICE. FOLLOWING A PERIOD AS LOCAL OFFICE MANAGER HE WAS NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE JOB SERVICE AND SUBSEQUENTLY HE BECAME JOB SERVICE DIRECTOR, A POSITION HE HELD FOR 12 YEARS. IN 1979 MALLOY WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MAINE CETA WHERE HE SERVED FOR TWO YEARS.

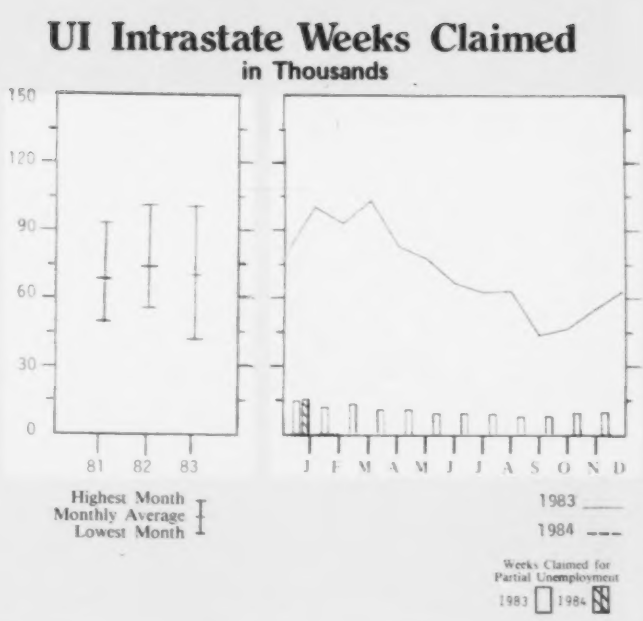
GOVERNOR JOSEPH E. BRENNAN NOMINATED MALLOY AS COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IN MARCH OF 1981 AND HE HAS HELD THAT POSITION FOR THREE YEARS.

WHILE COMMISSIONER, MALLOY SERVED AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE MAINE OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE. HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL, THE MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, THE DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS.

MALLOY SERVED AS A CONSULTANT TO VARIOUS REGIONAL AND STATE COMMITTEES ON EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR ISSUES SINCE 1965 AND CONSULTED ON THE PREPARATION OF "GUIDE TO MAINE LABOR LAW" IN 1975.

IN ANNOUNCING HIS RETIREMENT MALLOY STATED HIS INTENTION TO SEEK ELECTION TO THE MAINE LEGISLATURE SAYING THAT AFTER MANY YEARS OF WATCHING THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS HE FELT THE TIME HAD COME TO BECOME MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED.





1983--THE YEAR IN REVIEW

FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR MAINE'S ANNUAL AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE. MAINE'S 1983 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 9.0 PERCENT COMPARED TO A NATIONAL CIVILIAN RATE OF 9.6 PERCENT.

THE YEAR 1983 WAS ONE OF RECOVERY FROM THE NATIONAL RECESSION OF 1981-1982 FOR THE MAINE ECONOMY. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES PEAKED DURING THE EARLY MONTHS OF 1983 AND BEGAN TO DECLINE AS MAINE'S ECONOMY STRENGTHENED. WHILE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1983 ROSE ABOVE RATES FOR THE SAME MONTHS IN 1982, RATES FOR THE LAST FOUR MONTHS FELL BELOW YEAR-AGO RATES.

AFTER DECLINING BY 3,700 BETWEEN 1981 AND 1982, ANNUAL AVERAGE NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT INCREASED BY 5,400 BETWEEN 1982 AND 1983. MOST OF THIS EMPLOYMENT GAIN WAS ACCOUNTED FOR BY INCREASES IN THE NONMANUFACTURING SECTOR.

NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT INCREASED BY 5,600 BETWEEN 1982 AND 1983 DUE PRIMARILY TO GAINS BY THE RETAIL TRADE AND SERVICES DIVISIONS. ALL MAJOR RETAIL TRADE INDUSTRIES RECORDED GAINS DURING 1983, WITH THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES REGISTERED BY GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES, FOOD STORES, AND EATING AND DRINKING PLACES. EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES DIVISION INCREASED BY 2,100 DURING 1983 WITH THE MOST SIGNIFICANT GAINS RECORDED BY HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES. SMALLER GAINS WERE REGISTERED BY BUSINESS SERVICES AND HOTELS, MOTELS AND OTHER LODGING PLACES.

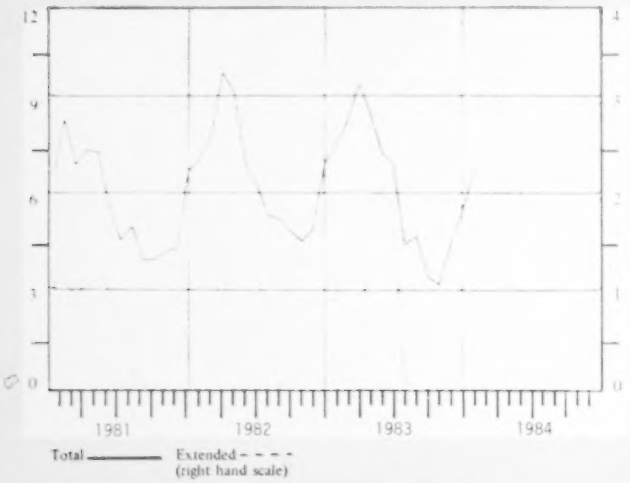
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

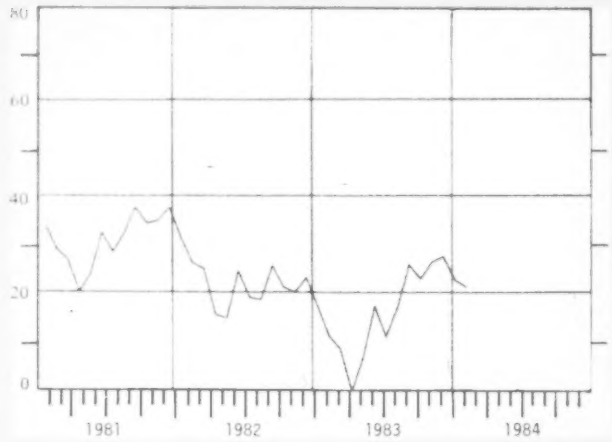
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

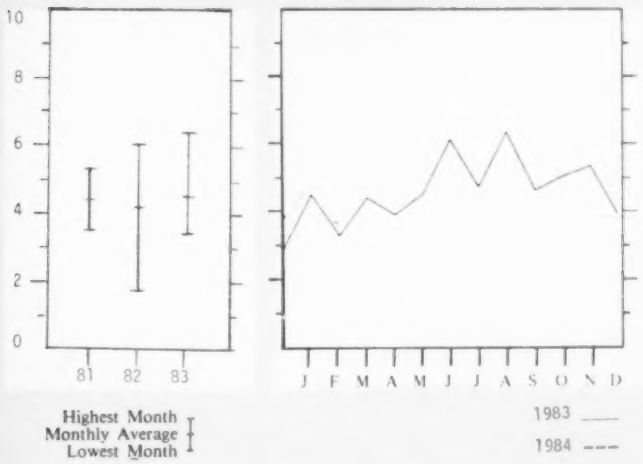
in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	408.8	424.6	401.3	97.8	99.9	92.2	33.2	33.9	32.2
Total Manufacturing	109.1	109.7	106.9	16.6	16.8	16.3	11.3	11.3	10.4
Durable Goods	40.8	41.1	39.5	6.7	6.7	6.2	2.1	2.2	1.8
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	13.3	13.4	12.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	15.8	15.8	14.4	5.7	5.8	5.5	1.7	1.8	1.5
Other Durable Goods 3/	11.7	11.9	12.8	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Nondurable Goods	68.3	68.6	67.4	9.9	10.1	10.1	9.2	9.1	8.6
Food and Kindred Products	8.0	7.6	7.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
Textile Mill Products	7.2	7.2	6.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.6	1.4
Apparel	4.0	4.9	4.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	18.6	18.6	18.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.6	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	19.3	19.8	20.5	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.3
Footwear (except Rubber)	16.2	16.7	17.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.9	2.9	2.7
All Other	3.1	3.1	3.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.4	10.5	9.9	4.7	4.8	4.7	2.5	2.5	2.5
Total Nonmanufacturing	290.7	314.9	294.4	81.2	83.1	75.9	21.9	22.6	21.8
Contract Construction	14.5	17.1	13.6	3.9	4.2	3.4	1.1	1.3	1.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.6	18.4	17.6	5.5	5.6	5.4	1.2	1.3	1.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	80.9	95.2	85.3	27.7	28.2	25.4	7.6	8.2	7.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	18.2	18.0	17.4	8.5	8.5	8.1	1.7	1.6	1.6
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	78.6	82.0	78.2	22.0	22.9	20.5	7.2	7.1	7.1
Government	80.9	84.2	82.4	13.6	14.1	13.1	3.1	3.1	3.2
Federal	18.3	18.4	18.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.3
State and Local 5/	52.6	65.8	64.1	12.1	12.6	11.6	2.9	2.9	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38; Portland - 32, 37, 38; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

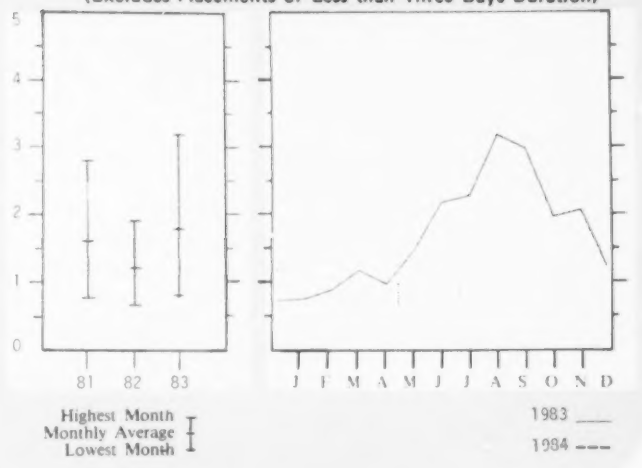
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1982	1981	1980
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$309.29	$314.31	$300.05	39.5	40.4	39.9	$ 7.83	$ 7.78	$ 7.52	$7.22	$6.66	$6.00
Durable Goods	322.81	325.62	324.81	40.1	40.4	40.1	8.05	8.06	8.10	7.59	6.97	6.27
Lumber and Wood Products	301.60	292.00	290.97	40.0	39.3	38.9	7.54	7.43	7.48	6.87	6.52	6.08
Metals and Machinery	307.22	319.19	296.25	40.8	41.4	39.5	7.53	7.71	7.50	7.15	6.61	5.87
Other Durable Goods	369.48	378.14	392.18	39.2	40.4	41.9	9.40	9.36	9.36	8.84	7.98	7.09
Nondurable Goods	301.45	307.44	284.65	39.2	40.4	39.7	7.69	7.61	7.17	7.00	6.48	5.85
Food and Kindred Products	211.59	226.15	231.04	33.8	36.3	38.0	6.26	6.23	6.08	5.84	5.50	5.01
Textile Mill Products	257.27	262.04	221.45	41.9	43.6	39.9	6.14	6.01	5.55	5.49	5.17	4.79
Apparel	194.50	194.71	199.97	35.3	36.6	37.1	5.51	5.32	5.39	5.23	4.97	4.49
Paper and Allied Products	512.44	525.54	472.93	46.0	46.1	45.3	11.14	11.40	10.44	10.10	9.27	8.31
Leather and Leather Products	203.33	211.30	204.24	35.3	37.2	37.0	5.76	5.68	5.52	5.46	5.10	4.72
Other Nondurable Goods	265.34	266.95	249.94	38.4	39.2	38.1	6.91	6.81	6.56	6.23	5.75	5.23
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	283.84	293.14	284.25	37.2	38.4	37.9	7.63	7.79	7.50	7.19	6.49	5.85
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	241.77	251.62	232.70	37.6	39.5	38.4	6.43	6.37	6.06	5.96	5.57	5.08

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 1/
Labor Force	216.5	218.8	206.1
Unemployed	20.1	19.0	18.9
(Percent)	9.3	8.7	9.2
Resident Employed	196.4	199.8	187.2

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items	305.2	303.5	293.1	303.5

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.6
Percent Change from Last December	+4.1
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+0.6

1/ Preliminary estimates

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	509.7	529.3	509.7	461.6	487.5	455.6	48.1	41.9	54.1	9.4	7.9	10.6
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	41,300	44,000	42,500	38,100	40,700	38,600	3,200	3,300	3,900	7.7	7.5	9.2
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	32,600	33,800	32,100	29,600	31,300	28,300	3,000	2,500	3,800	9.2	7.4	11.8
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	38,000	39,100	38,100	34,500	35,900	33,700	3,500	3,200	4,400	9.2	8.2	11.5
Portland SMSA	98,300	101,400	94,700	92,400	95,900	87,500	5,900	5,500	7,200	6.0	5.4	7.6
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	29,600	29,630	29,730	26,010	27,580	25,970	2,590	2,050	2,760	9.1	6.9	9.6
Bath-Brunswick	23,750	24,100	24,450	22,080	22,670	22,820	1,670	1,430	1,630	7.0	5.9	6.7
Belfast	11,320	11,400	10,960	9,410	9,940	9,220	1,910	1,460	1,740	16.9	12.8	15.9
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	7,600	8,390	7,280	6,650	7,670	6,400	950	720	880	12.5	8.6	12.1
Calais-Eastport	13,700	14,540	14,460	11,790	12,840	12,030	1,910	1,700	2,420	13.9	11.7	16.7
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,310	21,210	19,920	16,720	17,600	17,040	3,590	3,610	2,880	17.7	17.0	14.5
Central Penobscot	3,530	3,720	3,700	3,220	3,480	3,390	310	240	310	8.8	6.5	8.4
Dover-Foxcroft	6,430	6,630	6,510	5,900	6,180	5,920	530	450	590	8.2	6.8	9.1
Ellsworth	18,760	19,790	18,980	16,740	18,190	16,650	2,020	1,600	2,330	10.8	8.1	12.3
Farmington	12,250	13,400	13,370	10,920	12,210	12,160	1,330	1,190	1,210	10.9	8.9	9.1
Fort Kent-Allagash	4,740	4,880	4,870	4,210	4,480	4,270	530	400	600	11.2	8.2	12.3
Greenville	1,520	1,830	1,500	1,420	1,740	1,310	100	90	190	6.6	4.9	12.7
Houlton	4,750	4,980	4,810	4,240	4,490	4,120	510	490	690	10.7	9.8	14.3
Lincoln-Howland	5,780	5,970	5,820	5,290	5,600	5,300	490	370	520	8.5	6.2	8.9
Livermore Falls	5,870	6,080	5,770	5,020	5,350	4,940	850	730	830	14.5	12.0	14.4
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,110	4,240	4,280	3,460	3,720	3,450	650	520	830	15.8	12.3	19.4
Mechanic Falls	2,230	2,170	2,170	1,880	1,880	1,730	350	290	440	15.7	13.4	20.3
Millinocket-East Millinocket	4,940	4,990	5,220	4,610	4,700	4,810	330	290	410	6.7	5.8	7.9
Patten-Island Falls	2,120	2,210	2,290	1,940	2,020	1,960	180	190	330	8.5	8.6	14.4
Rockland	17,030	17,460	17,010	15,110	15,930	14,850	1,920	1,530	2,160	11.3	8.8	12.7
Rumford	19,760	20,390	20,320	17,820	18,700	17,810	1,940	1,690	2,510	9.8	8.3	12.4
Sebago Lake Region	11,100	11,540	10,670	10,170	10,770	9,530	930	770	1,140	8.4	6.7	10.7
Skowhegan	20,490	20,990	21,310	17,680	18,660	18,470	2,810	2,330	2,840	13.7	11.1	13.3
Kittery-York	19,100	20,410	18,050	18,110	19,670	16,940	990	740	1,110	5.2	3.6	6.1
Southwest Penobscot	8,210	8,260	8,020	7,000	7,290	6,730	1,210	970	1,290	14.7	11.7	16.1
Waterville	21,460	22,090	21,860	19,650	20,380	19,660	1,800	1,710	2,200	8.4	7.7	10.1
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,644.9	1,587.3	n/a	1,571.0	1,456.0	n/a	73.9	131.3	n/a	4.5	8.3
Massachusetts	3,011.0	3,052.0	2,997.0	2,790.0	2,875.0	2,759.0	221.0	177.0	238.0	7.3	5.8	7.9
New Hampshire	n/a	510.7	486.0	n/a	488.9	445.0	n/a	21.9	41.0	n/a	4.3	8.5
Rhode Island	477.3	489.2	482.0	439.1	456.1	423.0	38.2	33.1	59.0	8.0	6.8	12.2
Vermont	n/a	265.9	261.0	n/a	250.6	240.1	n/a	15.3	20.8	n/a	5.8	8.0
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	5,962.8	5,813.2	n/a	5,641.6	5,323.1	n/a	321.2	490.1	n/a	5.4	8.4
UNITED STATES 3/	111,025	111,795	109,779	101,270	102,803	97,262	9,755	8,992	12,517	8.8	8.0	11.4

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.
3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	15,773	12,655	20,387	1,824	1,432	2,673	1,132	952	1,551
Insured Unemployment Rate *	4.0	3.1	5.2	2.2	1.7	3.4	3.5	2.9	4.9

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

OTHER NONMANUFACTURING DIVISIONS RECORDING EMPLOYMENT GAINS WERE WHOLESALE TRADE; GOVERNMENT; AND FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE.

ANNUAL AVERAGE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT REMAINED UNCHANGED BETWEEN 1982 AND 1983. HOWEVER, DATA FOR THIS TIME PERIOD MASKED SIGNS OF RECOVERY THAT WERE APPARENT TOWARDS THE END OF 1983. BY DECEMBER 1983 MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT WAS 1,300 ABOVE THE DECEMBER 1982 LEVEL. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WHICH RECORDED MARKED IMPROVEMENT BY YEAR'S END INCLUDE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, TEXTILES, PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS, AND LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS. THE IMPROVING NATIONAL ECONOMIC CLIMATE HAS BENEFITED THE TEXTILE, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, AND PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES AS EVIDENCED BY THE INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF NATIONAL MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS BETWEEN 1982 AND 1983 OF 10.6 PERCENT, 11.7 PERCENT, AND 8.5 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY. NATIONAL HOUSING STARTS FOR 1983 ROSE 60.3 PERCENT OVER THE 1982 LEVEL PROVIDING IMPROVED DEMAND FOR MAINE LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS.

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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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Lab 449

JANUARY 1984

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services